

REMARKS

The applicants acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of the Office Action mailed May 4, 2005, and completion of the personal interview on July 28, 2005. Pursuant to the discussions in the interview, applicant has tendered amendments to the pending claims, as well as additional claims, which are distinguished over the art of record. It is submitted that with the subject amendments, for the reasons noted below, all claims are in condition for allowance over the art of record.

BACKGROUND

By way of review, the subject application teaches a system for monitoring control of computer output peripheral devices, such as printers. As a typical network comprises document processing devices that communicate messages in different fashions, it is frequently incumbent upon a network manager to have multiple means for monitoring and reporting status of these devices. Thus, the subject application teaches a mechanism by which reporting of status of a network device is rendered with a variety of possible network devices.

Brossman, et al. Patent

Brossman, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,266,150, is directed to a virtual printer which functions to allow a presentation job, such as printing, to be received in a specified data format. Source data thus received is reduced to an intermediate format and ultimately converted to device specific data and device specific control information for the presentation device, such as the printer. Figure 3 of Brossman denotes a data flow which traces a job print request from a presentation device through a virtual printer, and associated translation so as to ultimately be rendered by a presentation device. It will be appreciated from a review of Figure 3 that the system is detailing a device focused on outbound document processing operations. The specification of Brossman makes passing mention to routing of device status information from a printer. By way of example, the specification provides: "the independent job status recording means provides a non-blocking approach for reporting asynchronous job and device status to the output server 200." Column 11, lines 13-16. Further, passing mention is made to route such status

information back to originating workstation. By way of example, the system notes that, "when a presentation job's status is finally received job queues [sic] are updated and the originating workstation is notified of the status by 680 and 690, respectively." Column 11, lines 39-42. Thus, to the extent routing of status information from the presentation device is made back to the workstation, no particular detail as to how this is accomplished is revealed. Section claims 1, 4 and 5 are in condition for allowance under 35 USC § 102 over Brossman.

As will be noted from the above, Brossman makes mention of communication from a presentation device, back to an originating workstation from which a document processing operation was commenced. Brossman failed to disclose any detail relative to such communication. Brossman fails to disclose any mechanism by which such a message corresponds to selected sets of identifiers to cause a predetermined notification to be issued to a printer controller.

As noted above, the subject system advantageously teaches a mechanism by which notifications from a rendering device, particular to such notification, can be communicated uniformly to a workstation.

Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been amended pursuant to the discussions in the personal interview to further emphasize and clarify the communication of messages from a rendering device. As amended, each of these claims clarify that the identifiers are selected from a plurality of sets thereof. An identifier is then selected from the selected set, which identifier corresponds to a predetermined type of notification to be issued.

Thus, claims 1, 4 and 5 include teachings and limitations far removed from those of Brossman. Accordingly, claims 1, 4 and 5 are submitted to be in condition for allowance thereover.

Claims 2-4 and 6-15 provide further limitation to the subject matter of the afore-noted independent claims. Accordingly, for the reasons noted above, these claims are also submitted to be in condition for allowance over Brossman.

All Claims are In Condition for Allowance over
Brossman, et al. In View of Nguyen, et al.

Nguyen, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,825,941, is directed to a printer driver which employs dynamic link libraries. The Examiner used the additional disclosure of Nguyen to reject claims 2 and 3 as originally filed, which claims included limitations relative to a dynamic link library. Nguyen, however, fails to disclose the message communication from a rendering device as noted above.

Accordingly, for the reasons noted above, claims 2 and 3, as well as all additional claims, are patentably distinct over the combination and in condition for allowance thereover.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and comments, it is submitted that all claims are patentably distinct over the art of record and in condition for allowance thereover. An early allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any uncovered fees, or any overpayments, necessitated by the foregoing communication, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 66329/14562.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referenced as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on the below date with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment; Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: Aug. 15, 2005

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